

# BookletChart™

## Galveston to Rio Grande

NOAA Chart 1117A

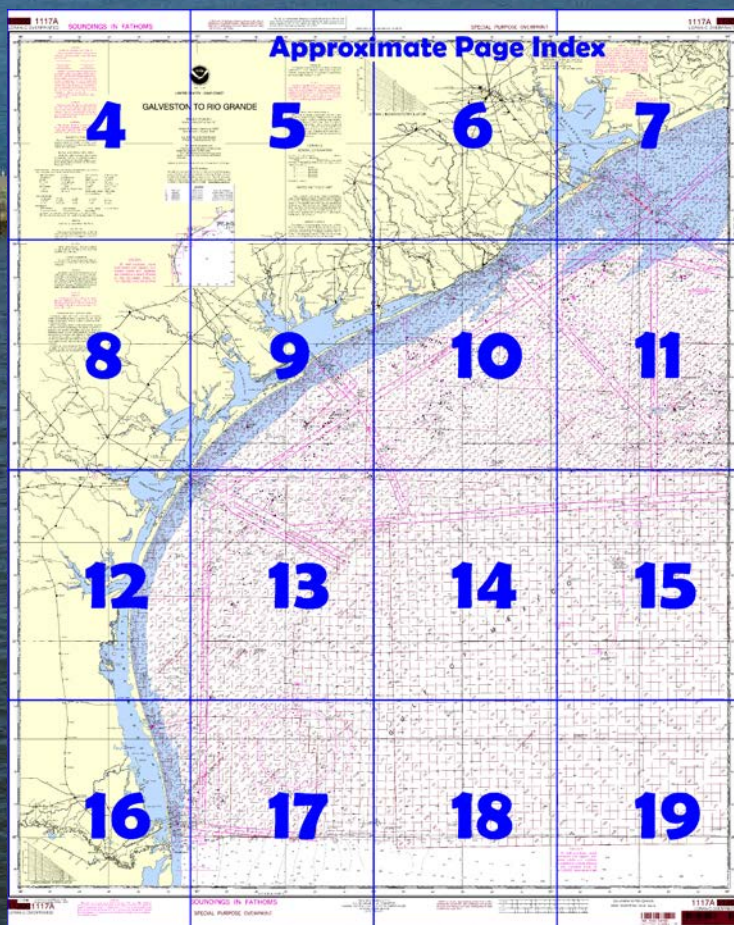


*A reduced-scale NOAA nautical chart for small boaters*

*When possible, use the full-size NOAA chart for navigation.*



- Complete, reduced-scale nautical chart
- Print at home for free
- Convenient size
- Up-to-date with Notices to Mariners
- Compiled by NOAA's Office of Coast Survey, the nation's chartmaker



**Published by the**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
**National Ocean Service**  
**Office of Coast Survey**  
[www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov](http://www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov)  
**888-990-NOAA**

**What are Nautical Charts?**

Nautical charts are a fundamental tool of marine navigation. They show water depths, obstructions, buoys, other aids to navigation, and much more. The information is shown in a way that promotes safe and efficient navigation. Chart carriage is mandatory on the commercial ships that carry America's commerce. They are also used on every Navy and Coast Guard ship, fishing and passenger vessels, and are widely carried by recreational boaters.

**What is a BookletChart™?**

This BookletChart is made to help recreational boaters locate themselves on the water. It has been reduced in scale for convenience, but otherwise contains all the information of the full-scale nautical chart. The bar scales have also been reduced, and are accurate when used to measure distances in this BookletChart. See the Note at the bottom of page 5 for the reduction in scale applied to this chart.

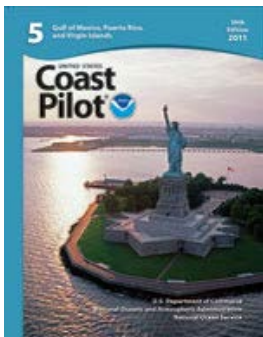
Whenever possible, use the official, full scale NOAA nautical chart for navigation. Nautical chart sales agents are listed on the Internet at <http://www.NauticalCharts.NOAA.gov>.

This BookletChart does NOT fulfill chart carriage requirements for regulated commercial vessels under Titles 33 and 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

**Notice to Mariners Correction Status**

This BookletChart has been updated for chart corrections published in the U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency Weekly Notice to Mariners, and, where applicable, the Canadian Coast Guard Notice to Mariners. Additional chart corrections have been made by NOAA in advance of their publication in a Notice to Mariners. The last Notices to Mariners applied to this chart are listed in the Note at the bottom of page 7. Coast Pilot excerpts are not being corrected.

For latest Coast Pilot excerpt visit the Office of Coast Survey website at [http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/coastpilot\\_w.php?book=5](http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/coastpilot_w.php?book=5).



**(Selected Excerpts from Coast Pilot)**

**Weather** The climate along this stretch of coast is a mixture of tropical and temperate zone conditions. The area receives abundant rainfall and moderate temperatures, with only a few short periods where temperatures fall to freezing or below. The Gulf of Mexico helps modify the relative humidity and temperature conditions, decreasing the range between extremes. When S winds prevail these marine effects are increased. However,

continental heat and cold waves penetrate the area at times. During summer, prevailing southeasterlies help cool the air and produce showers.

Navigation is hampered at times by extratropical or winter systems, fog, thunderstorms, and tropical cyclones. This area is located S of the mean track of continental extratropical cyclones. During winter, this track reaches its S limit, and some 15 to 20 associated fronts reach the Gulf of Mexico. These "northers" are common from October through February. The mixing of cold and warm air may also trigger the formation of an extratropical cyclone in the Gulf. The cold fronts and winter storms result in gale-force winds blowing 1 percent of the time and winds of 22 knots or more occurring 7 to 12 percent of the time. Waves of 10 feet or more are common, while 20-foot seas have been encountered. Tropical cyclones are a threat to navigation from late May into early November. On average, a tropical cyclone (winds 34 knots or more) will move through the region every 1 to 2 years, while a hurricane (winds 64 knots or more) can be expected every 4 to 5 years. Winds can be expected to reach 100 knots about every 25 years. These systems can also generate rough seas. Carla and Audrey produced 28- to 30-foot seas. On average, maximum significant wave heights of about 40 feet can be expected once every 25 years in deep waters.

While fog occurs throughout the year, it is much more likely in winter and early spring; February is often the foggiest month. Port Arthur averages 42 days annually when visibilities fall below 0.4 mile. These monthly averages range from less than 1 day in the summer months to 8 days in January. Offshore visibilities fall below 2 miles about 2 to 3 percent of the time from December through April. On average, sound signals operate more than 100 hours per month in December and January. Visibilities may also be restricted by precipitation and smoke.

**Dangers.**—The coast has fairly uniform depths with few outlying dangers except in the vicinity of the passes and off the mouth of the Brazos River where shoaling to 18 feet is reported as far as 5 miles offshore; otherwise, vessels of any draft can approach to within 2.5 miles of the shore. Other reported dangers are about 20 miles SW of the entrance to the Brazos River and consist of occasional ridges of soft mud having as little as 4 fathoms over them, with general surrounding depths of 5 to 5½ fathoms. Oil wells may be encountered offshore, especially in the vicinity of Freeport Harbor. Mariners are cautioned to give them a wide berth especially when drilling operations are in progress.

**Caution.**—Hurricane Beulah in September 1967 caused considerable damage in the Gulf Coast area. Mariners are advised to exercise extreme caution as depths may vary from those charted and mentioned in the Coast Pilot. In addition, Hurricane Beulah created many new cuts or passes through the beach. Many of these cuts were reported in the stretch of beach extending N from about 6 miles N of Port Mansfield Channel for a distance of 20 miles. These openings in the beach should not be used for navigation.

**U.S. Coast Guard Rescue Coordination Center**  
**24 hour Regional Contact for Emergencies**

RCC New Orleans      Commander  
8th CG District      (504) 589-6225  
New Orleans, LA



## Navigation Managers Area of Responsibility



**NOAA's navigation managers** serve as ambassadors to the maritime community.

They help identify navigational challenges facing professional and recreational mariners, and provide NOAA resources and information for safe navigation. For additional information, please visit [nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/service/navmanagers)

To make suggestions or ask questions online, go to [nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/inquiry](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/inquiry).

To report a chart discrepancy, please use [ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx](http://ocsdata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx).

## Lateral System As Seen Entering From Seaward

on navigable waters except Western Rivers



For more information on aids to navigation, including those on Western Rivers, please consult the latest USCG Light List for your area.

These volumes are available online at <http://www.navcen.uscg.gov>

# SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS

Offshore oil and gas platforms indicated in red (formerly the Buoyage) furnished to June



THE NATION'S CHARTMAKER SINCE 1807

UNITED STATES - GULF COAST

## GALVESTON TO RIO C

Mercator Projection  
Scale 1:460,732 at Lat 28°00'

North American Datum of 1983  
(World Geodetic System 1984)

SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS  
AT MEAN LOWER LOW WATER

(For offshore navigation only)  
Floating Aids to Navigation inside the sea  
buoys are not shown on this chart.  
See 1:80,000 scale series and large scale  
harbor charts for aids marking maintained  
channels.

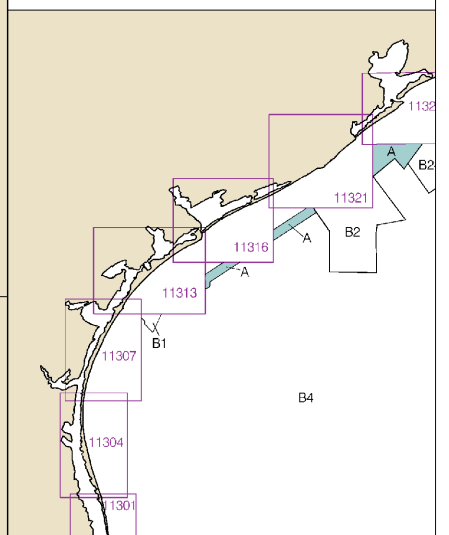
Additional information can be obtained at [nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov).

### SOURCE DIAGRAM

The outlined areas represent the limits of the most recent hydrographic survey information that has been evaluated for charting. Surveys have been banded in this diagram by date and type of survey. Channels maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are periodically resurveyed and not shown on this diagram. Refer to Chapter 1, United States Coast

### SOURCE

A	1990-2005	NOS Surveys	full bottom coverage
B1	1990-2005	NOS Surveys	partial bottom coverage
B2	1970-1989	NOS Surveys	partial bottom coverage
B3	1940-1969	NOS Surveys	partial bottom coverage
B4	1900-1939	NOS Surveys	partial bottom coverage



### ABBREVIATIONS (For complete list of Symbols and Abbreviations, see Chart No. 1.)

Aids to Navigation (lights are white unless otherwise indicated):			
AERO aeronautical	G green	Mo morse code	R TR radio tower
Al alternating	IQ interrupted quick	N nun	Rot rotating
B black	Iso isophase	OBSC obscured	s seconds
Bn beacon	LT LD lighthouse	Oc occulting	SEC sector
C can	M nautical mile	Or orange	St M statute miles
DIA diaphone	m minutes	Q quick	VQ very quick
F fixed	MICRO TR microwave tower	R red	W white
Fl flashing	Mkr marker	Ra Ref radar reflector	WHIS whistle
		R Bn radiobeacon	Y yellow
Bottom characteristics:			
Bds boulders	Co coral	gy gray	Oys oysters
bk broken	G gravel	h hard	so soft
Cy clay	Grs grass	M mud	Sh shells
			sy sticky
Miscellaneous:			
AUTH authorized	Obstn obstruction	PD position doubtful	Subm submerged
ED existence doubtful	PA position approximate	Rep reported	
(1) Wreck, rock, obstruction, or shoal swept clear to the depth indicated.			
(2) Rocks that cover and uncover, with heights in feet above datum of soundings.			

### HEIGHTS

Heights in feet above Mean High Water.

### AUTHORITIES

Hydrography and topography by the National Ocean Service, Coast Survey, with additional data from the Corps of Engineers and U.S. Coast Guard.

### CAUTION

Temporary changes or defects in aids to navigation are not indicated on this chart. See Local Notice to Mariners.

### AIDS TO NAVIGATION

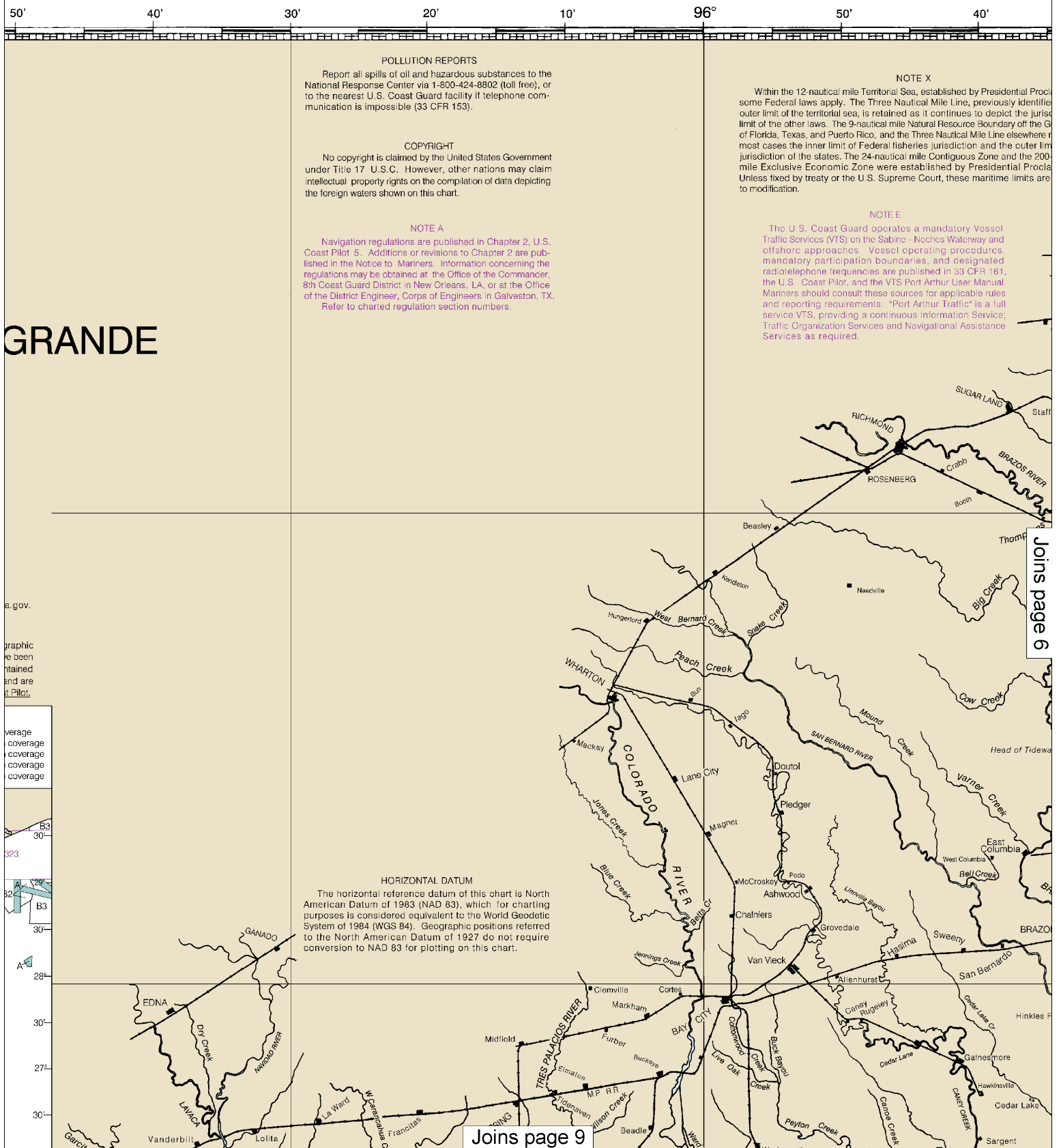
Consult U.S. Coast Guard Light List for supplemental information concerning aids to navigation.

### NOTE S

Regulations for Ocean Dumping Sites are contained in 40 CFR, Parts 220-229. Additional information concerning the regulations and requirements for use of the sites may be obtained

Joins page 8

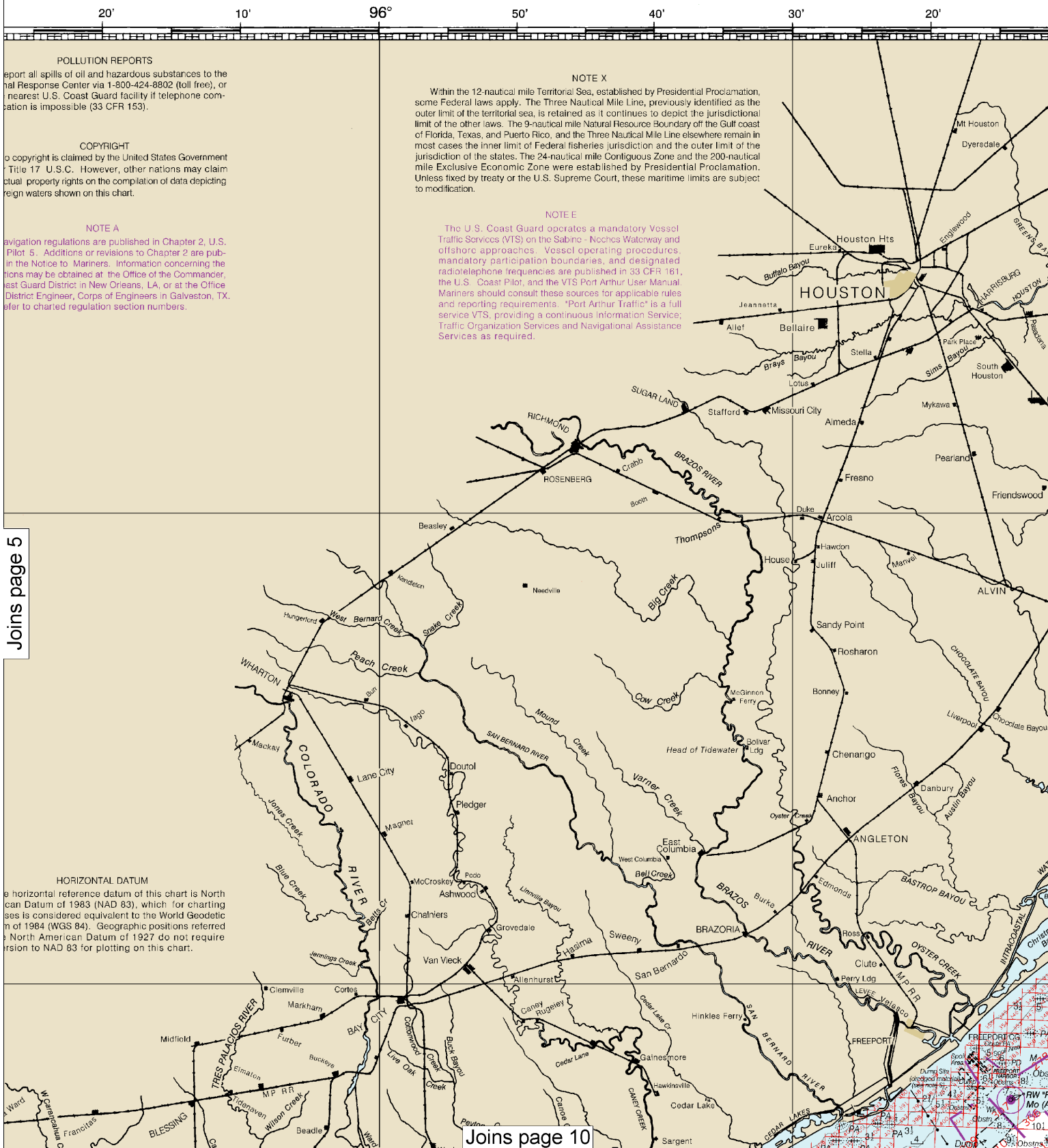
Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.



been designed to promote safe navigation. The National users to submit corrections, additions, or comments for Chief, Marine Chart Division (N/CS2), National Ocean ng, Maryland 20910-3282.

Formerly C&GS 1117, 1st Ed., Mar. 1919 C-1919-192, KAPP 178

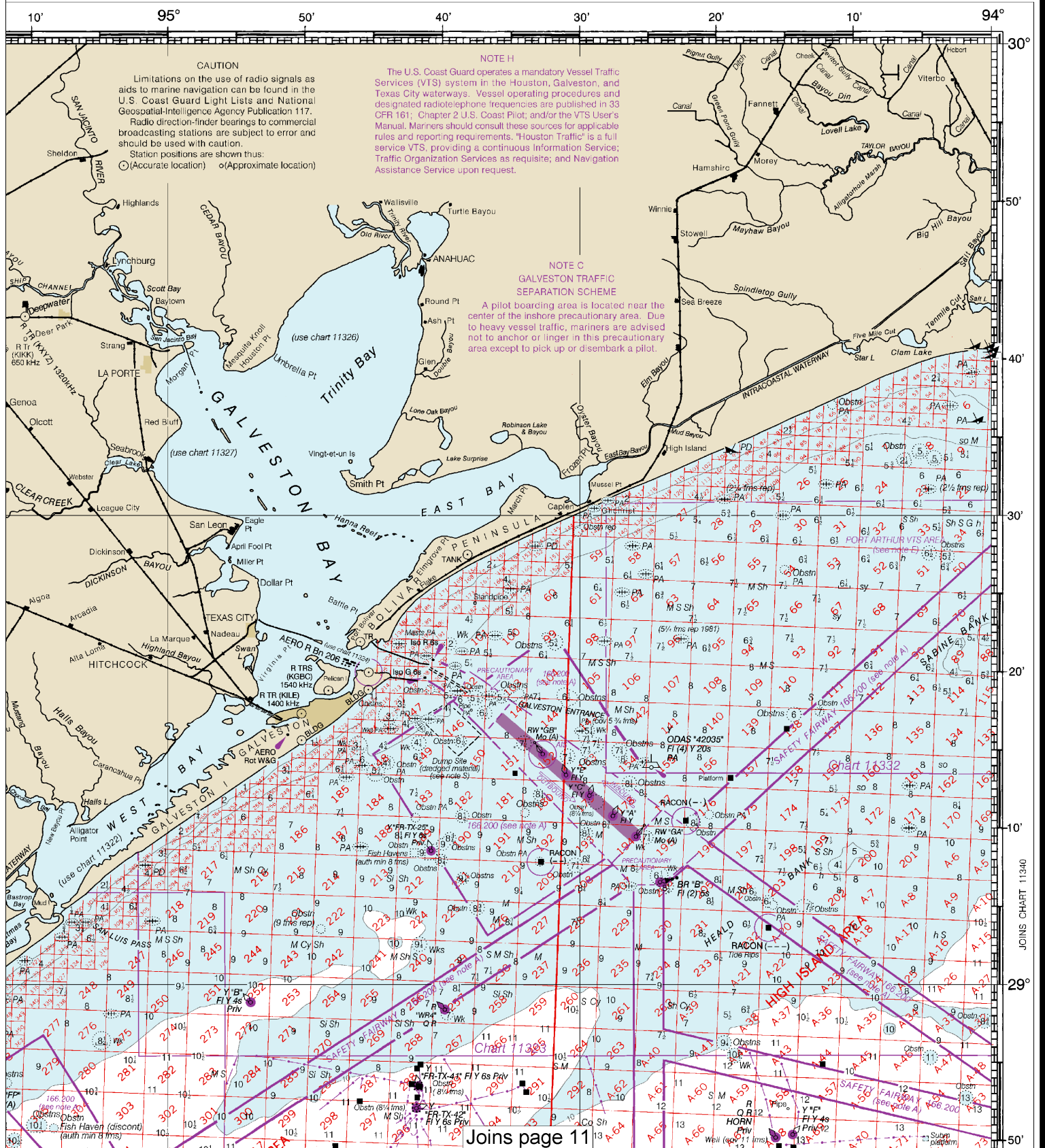
**SPECIAL PURPOSE**



**6**

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.





Hydrography and topography by the National Ocean Service, Coast Survey, with additional data from the Corps of Engineers and U.S. Coast Guard.

Joins page 4

#### CAUTION

Temporary changes or defects in aids to navigation are not indicated on this chart. See Local Notice to Mariners.

#### AIDS TO NAVIGATION

Consult U.S. Coast Guard Light List for supplemental information concerning aids to navigation.

#### NOTES

Regulations for Ocean Dumping Sites are contained in 40 CFR, Parts 220-229. Additional information concerning the regulations and requirements for use of the sites may be obtained from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). See U.S. Coast Pilot's appendix for addresses of EPA offices. Dumping subsequent to the survey dates may have reduced the depths shown.

#### NOTE D CAUTION

Unexploded ordnance is known to exist in this area. Ordnance removed from the ocean floor should be reported to the U.S. Coast Guard immediately for disposal instructions. See annual NM 1 (39).

#### HURRICANES AND TROPICAL STORMS

Hurricanes, tropical storms and other major storms may cause considerable damage to marine structures, aids to navigation and moored vessels, resulting in submerged debris in unknown locations.

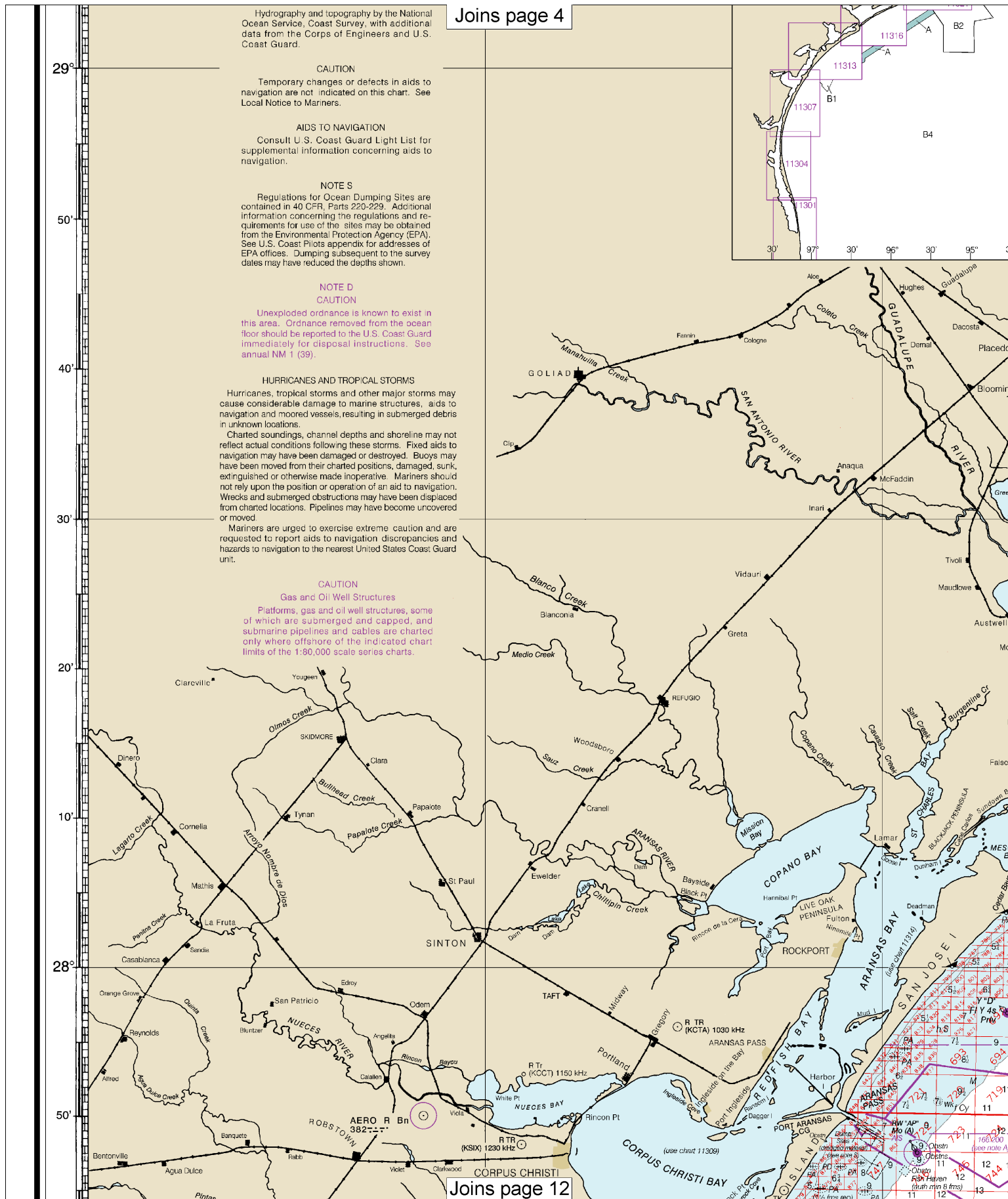
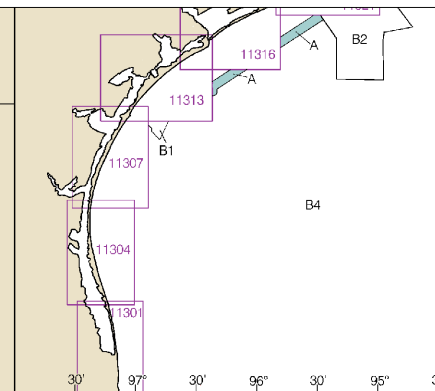
Charted soundings, channel depths and shoreline may not reflect actual conditions following these storms. Fixed aids to navigation may have been damaged or destroyed. Buoys may have been moved from their charted positions, damaged, sunk, extinguished or otherwise made inoperative. Mariners should not rely upon the position or operation of an aid to navigation. Wrecks and submerged obstructions may have been displaced from charted locations. Pipelines may have become uncovered or moved.

Mariners are urged to exercise extreme caution and are requested to report aids to navigation discrepancies and hazards to navigation to the nearest United States Coast Guard unit.

#### CAUTION

##### Gas and Oil Well Structures

Platforms, gas and oil well structures, some of which are submerged and capped, and submarine pipelines and cables are charted only where offshore of the indicated chart limits of the 1:80,000 scale series charts.



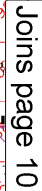
Joins page 12

8

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

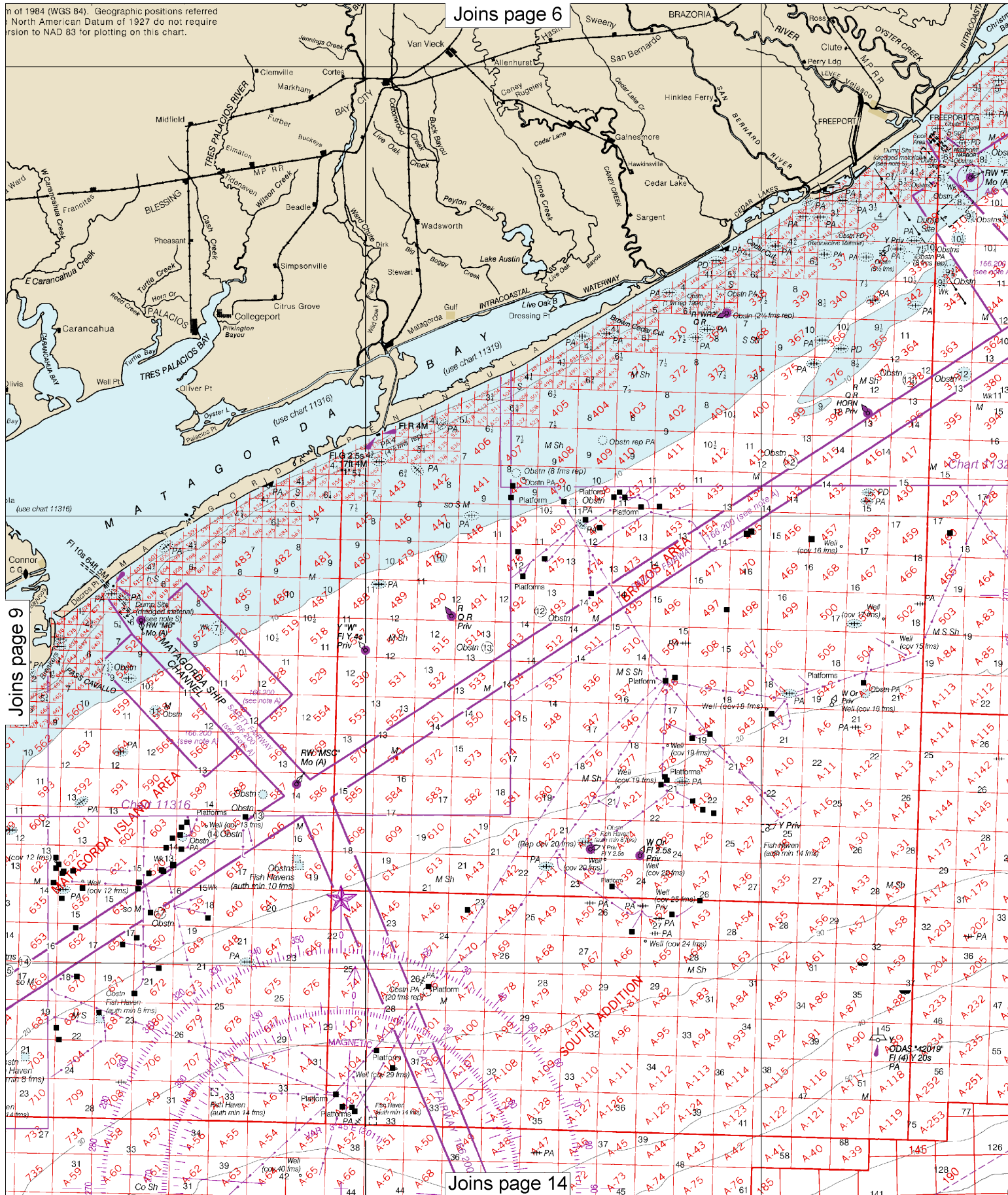


Joins page 5



of 1984 (WGS 84). Geographic positions referred to North American Datum of 1927 do not require correction to NAD 83 for plotting on this chart.

Joins page 6



Joins page 9

Joins page 14

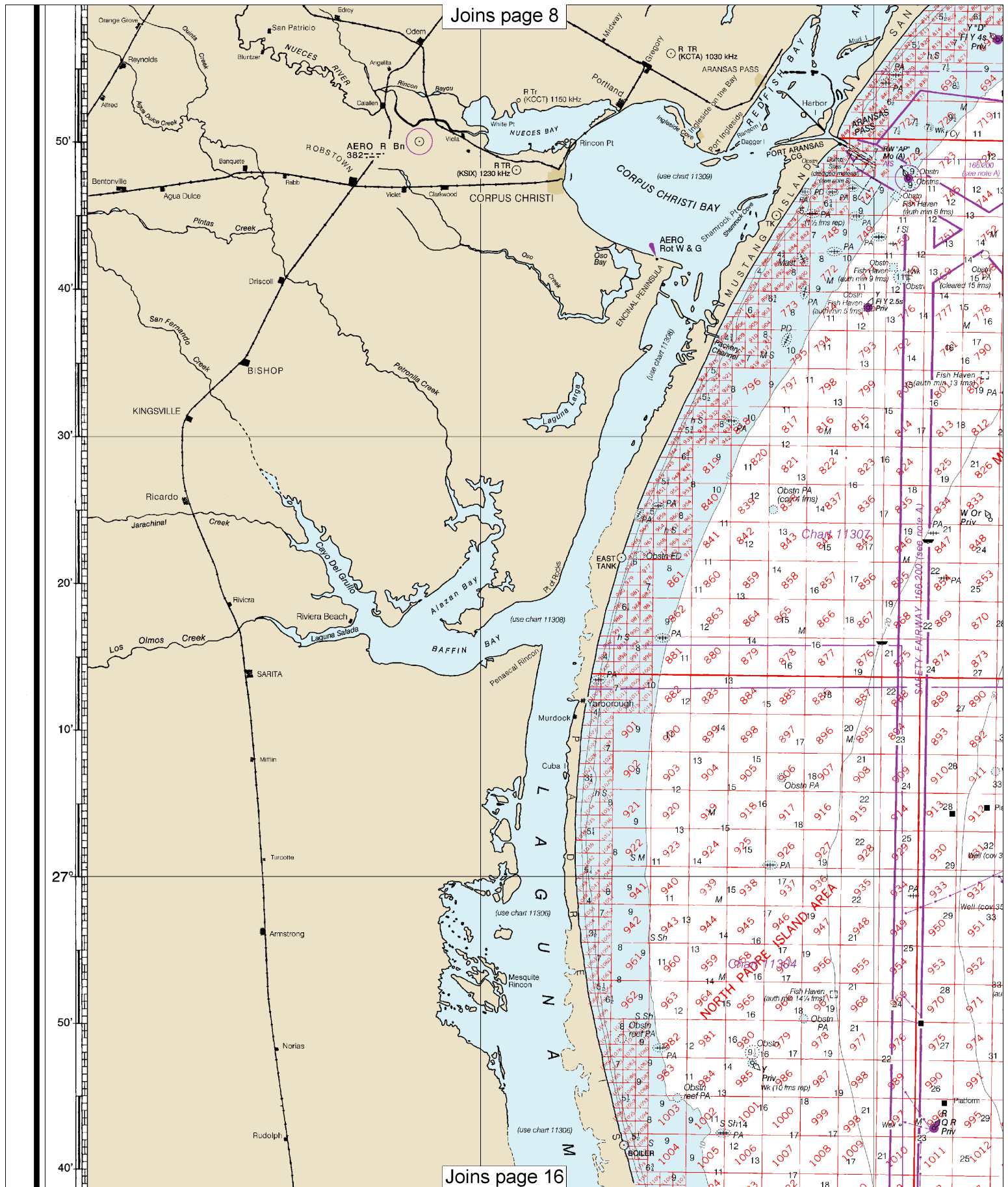
10

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.









12

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

Joins page 9

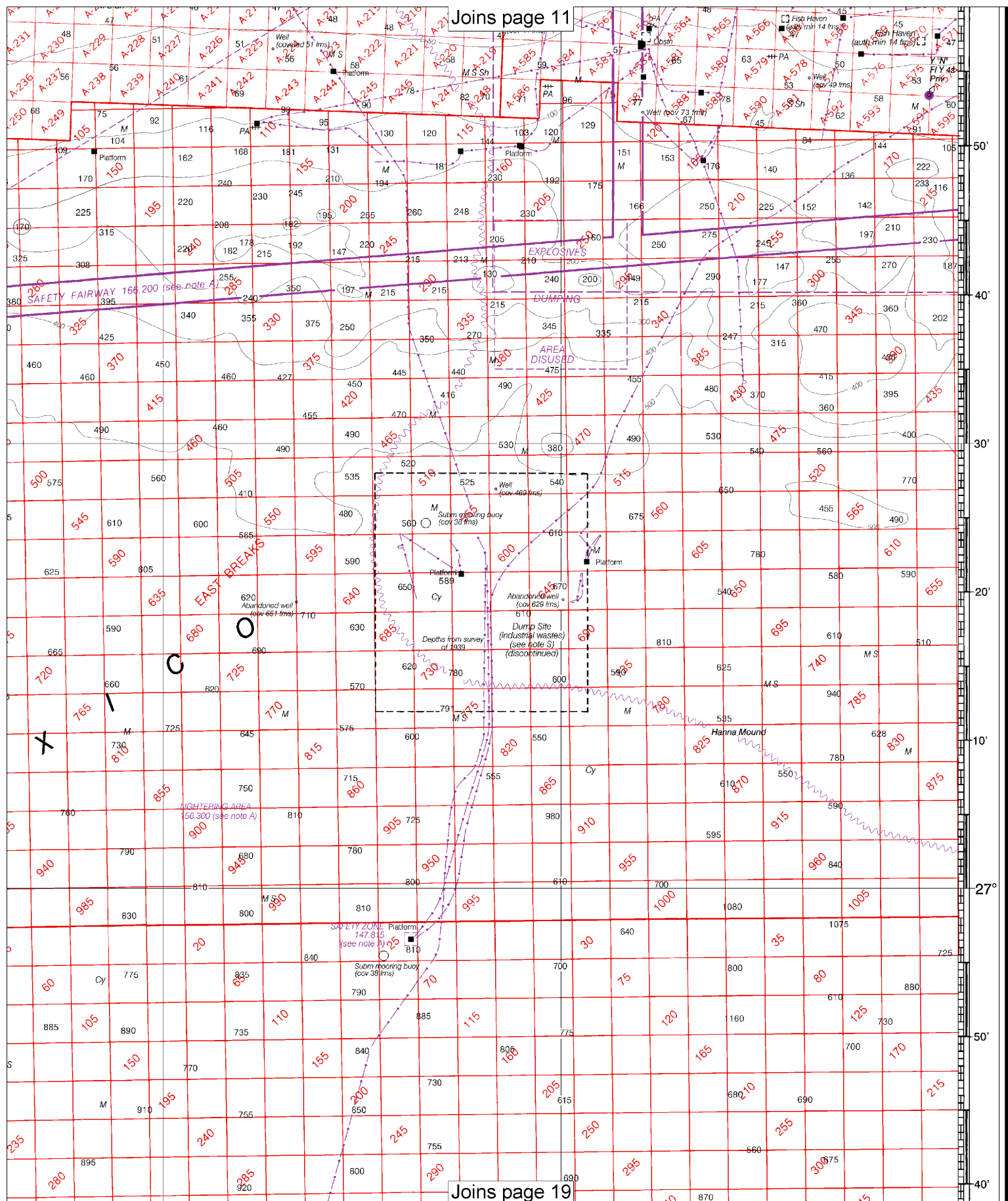
Joins page 14

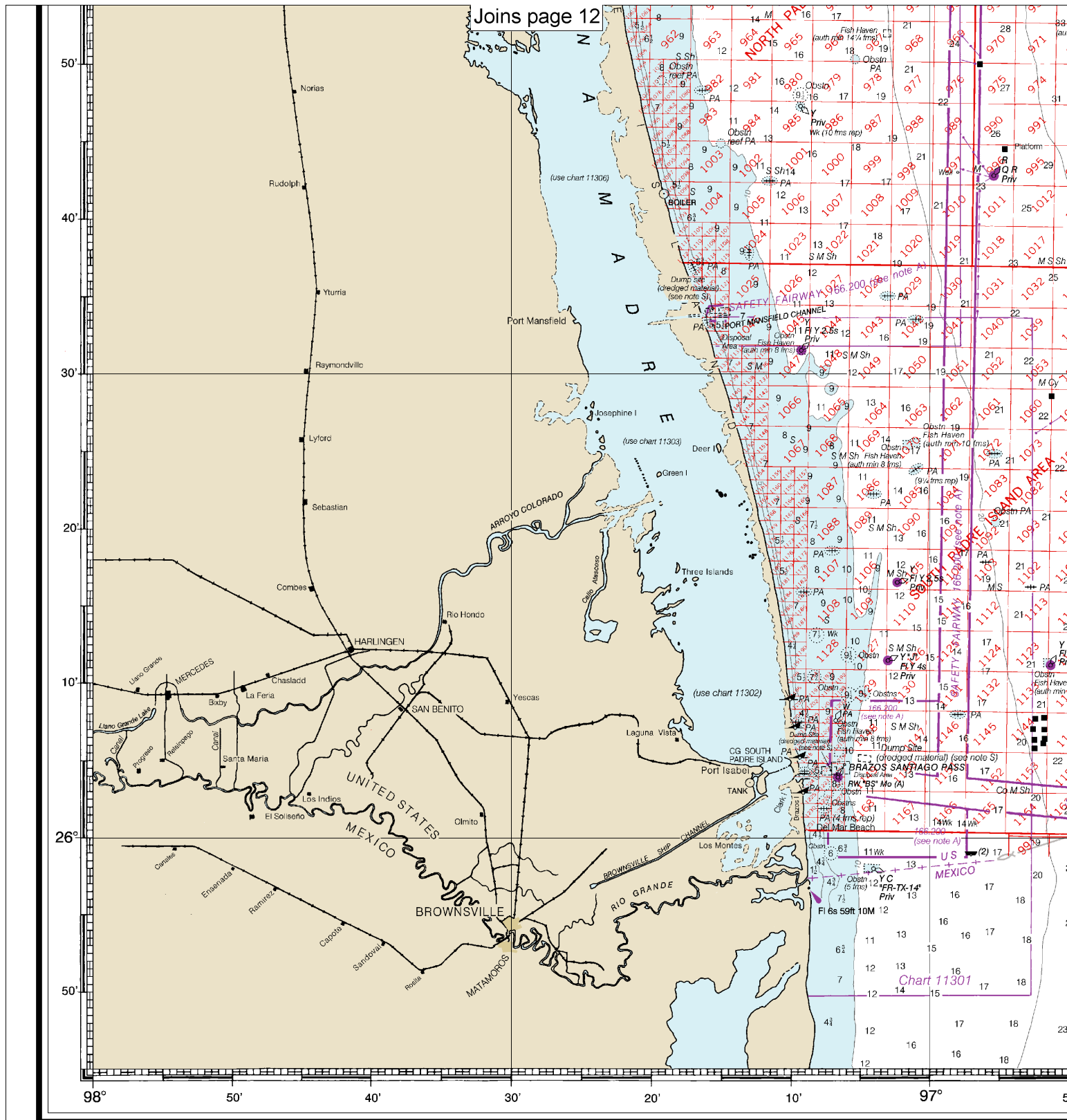
Joins page 17





Joins page 19





3rd Ed. Sep./11

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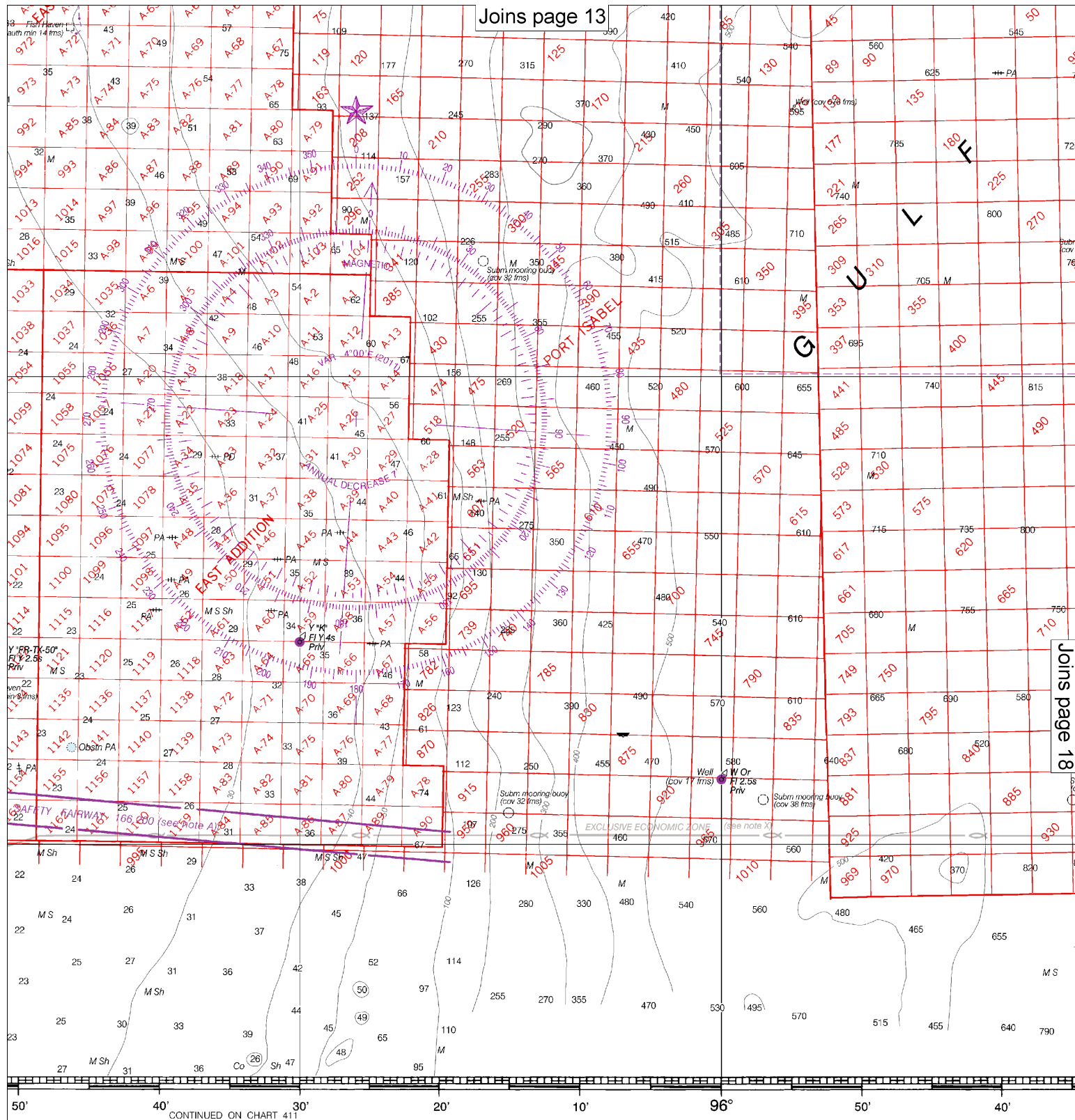
#### CAUTION

This chart has been corrected from the Notice to Mariners (NM) published weekly by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the Local Notice to Mariners (LNM) issued periodically by each U.S. Coast Guard district to the dates shown in the lower left hand corner. Chart updates corrected from Notice to Mariners published after the dates shown in the lower left hand corner are available at [nauticalcharts.noaa.gov](http://nauticalcharts.noaa.gov).

Last Correction: 11/2/2016. Cleared through:  
LNM: 4516 (11/8/2016), NM: 4416 (10/29/2016)

**16**

Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.

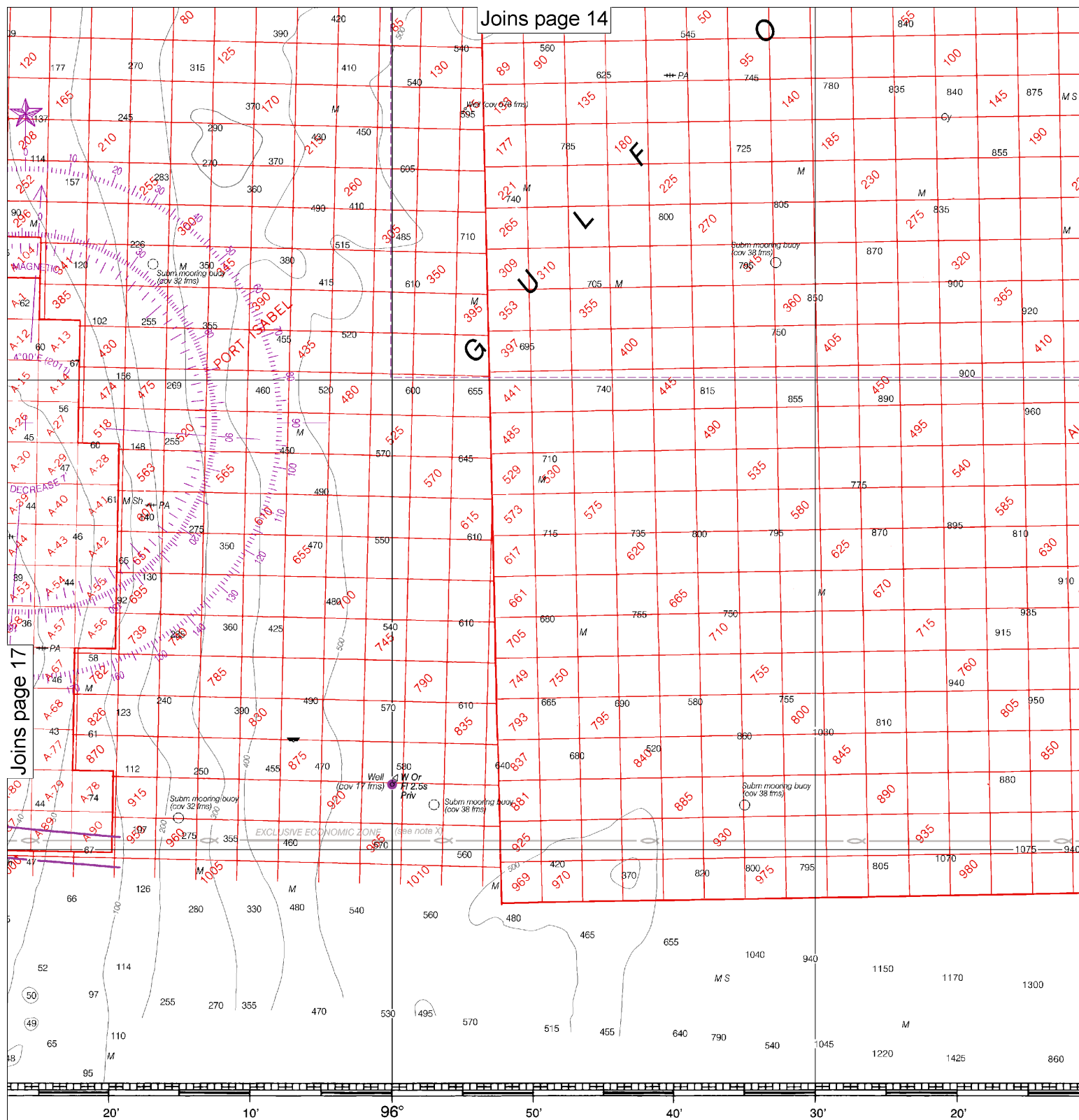


**SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS**  
**SPECIAL PURPOSE OVERPRINT**

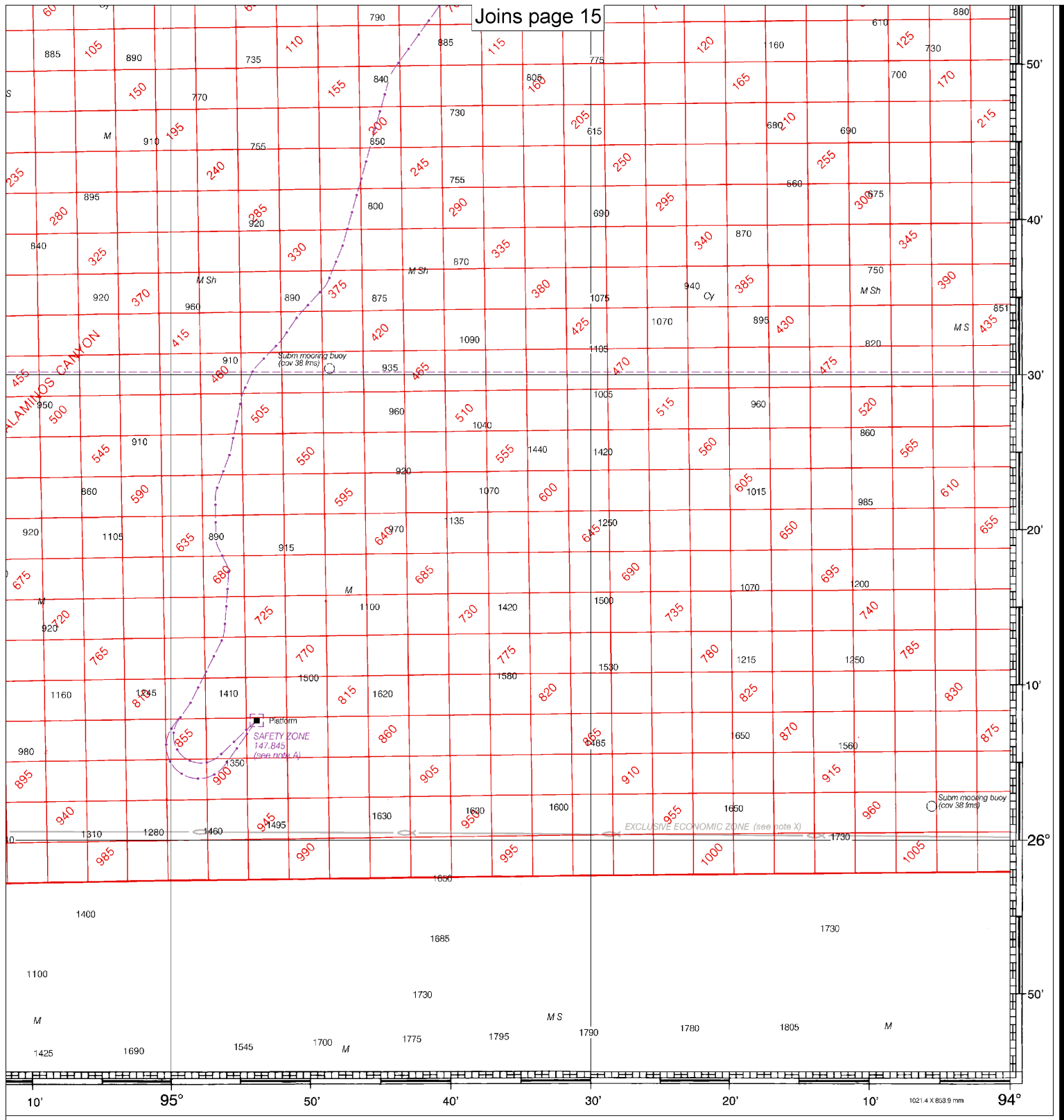
Published at Washington, D.C.  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
 NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
 NATIONAL OCEAN SERVICE  
 COAST SURVEY

Offshore indicated if  
 formerly furnished to





Note: Chart grid lines are aligned with true north.



Galveston to Rio Grande  
SOUNDINGS IN FATHOMS - SCALE 1:460,732

1117A 11300



## VHF Marine Radio channels for use on the waterways:

**Channel 6** – Inter-ship safety communications.

**Channel 9** – Communications between boats and ship-to-coast.

**Channel 13** – Navigation purposes at bridges, locks, and harbors.

**Channel 16** – Emergency, distress and safety calls to Coast Guard and others, and to initiate calls to other

vessels. Contact the other vessel, agree to another channel, and then switch.

**Channel 22A** – Calls between the Coast Guard and the public. Severe weather warnings, hazards to navigation and safety warnings are broadcast here.

**Channels 68, 69, 71, 72 and 78A** – Recreational boat channels.

**Getting and Giving Help** — Signal other boaters using visual distress signals (flares, orange flag, lights, arm signals); whistles; horns; and on your VHF radio. You are required by law to help boaters in trouble. Respond to distress signals, but do not endanger yourself.



**NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards (NWR)** is a nationwide network of radio stations broadcasting continuous weather information directly from the nearest National Weather Service office. NWR broadcasts official Weather Service warnings, watches, forecasts and other hazard information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/>

## Distress Call Procedures

- Make sure radio is on.
- Select Channel 16.
- Press/Hold the transmit button.
- Clearly say: "MAYDAY, MAYDAY, MAYDAY."
- Also give: Vessel Name and/or Description; Position and/or Location; Nature of Emergency; Number of People on Board.
- Release transmit button.
- Wait for 10 seconds — If no response Repeat MAYDAY call.

**HAVE ALL PERSONS PUT ON LIFE JACKETS!**

## Quick References

Nautical chart related products and information	— <a href="http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov">http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov</a>
Interactive chart catalog	— <a href="http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml">http://www.charts.noaa.gov/InteractiveCatalog/nrnc.shtml</a>
Report a chart discrepancy	— <a href="http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx">http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/discrepancy.aspx</a>
Chart and chart related inquiries and comments	— <a href="http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs">http://ocsddata.ncd.noaa.gov/idrs/inquiry.aspx?frompage=ContactUs</a>
Chart updates (LNM and NM corrections)	— <a href="http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html">http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/mcd/updates/LNM_NM.html</a>
Coast Pilot online	— <a href="http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm">http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/nsd/cpdownload.htm</a>
Tides and Currents	— <a href="http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov">http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov</a>
Marine Forecasts	— <a href="http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm">http://www.nws.noaa.gov/om/marine/home.htm</a>
National Data Buoy Center	— <a href="http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/">http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/</a>
NowCoast web portal for coastal conditions	— <a href="http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/">http://www.nowcoast.noaa.gov/</a>
National Weather Service	— <a href="http://www.weather.gov/">http://www.weather.gov/</a>
National Hurricane Center	— <a href="http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/">http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/</a>
Pacific Tsunami Warning Center	— <a href="http://ptwc.weather.gov/">http://ptwc.weather.gov/</a>
Contact Us	— <a href="http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm">http://www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/staff/contact.htm</a>



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